

## **VOCAB LIST FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR**

### **#1 Identity (poem)**

- a. the qualities, beliefs, or traits that make a person or group different from others
- b. Noun
- c. When I visited the town where my parents grew up, I felt more in touch with my identity than I ever have before.

### **#2 Self (n/a)**

- a. The evaluation of oneself as an individual, regardless of social position or standing
- b. Noun
- c. It was not until I started reading other people's autobiographies that I started thinking about the "self" and how it related to me.

### **#3 Feeble (p. 10 FFA)**

- a. Lacking in force or effectiveness; weak
- b. adjective
- c. My brother always gave feeble excuses for why he could not do homework each night.

### **#4 Opportunist (p. 11 FFA)**

- a. a person who takes advantage of a situation for personal gain, often by ignoring whether it is the right or wrong thing to do
- b. noun
- c. Harry accused Kellen of being an opportunist because he deliberately neglected homework when he knew a teacher would be absent the next day.

### **#5 Ethical**

- a. something that relates to moral principles or beliefs
- b. adjective
- c. The doctor was questioning what the ethical choice was when faced with a dying patient who was asking to cut off all medicine.

### **#6 Dilemma**

- a. a difficult situation or problem, often with two equally undesirable solutions

- b. noun
- c. Bobby faced the dilemma after seeing his friend cheat on the exam.

**#7 Commemorate** (p. 19 -- 7th Grade Reader)

- a. to pay tribute to or show respect for someone or something in a ceremony
- b. Verb
- c. The Redskins commemorated the anniversary of their last Super Bowl win by bringing the players on that team to the field during halftime.

**#8 Anecdote** (p. 23 -- 7th Grade Reader)

- a. a short, amusing or interesting story about a real incident or person
- b. Noun
- c. When I started at a new school, I heard a lot of anecdotes from students about events from previous years there.

**#9 Marked ("mark")** (p. 27 of Reader)

- a. clearly noticeable or evident
- b. adjective
- c. There was a marked difference in the candidate's debate performance after he received so much criticism in the first debate.

**#10 Aloof** (bottom of page 33 of Reader)

- a. Not friendly or warm; distant and detached
- b. adjective
- c. John was aloof at the party, choosing instead to play on his phone for most of the night.

**#11: Defer (ARITS)**

- a) To put off or delay
- b) Verb
- c) The person deferred admission to college for a year, so he started school in the Fall of 2011.

**#12: Fester (ARITS)**

- a) To rot or wither
- b) Verb
- c) The wound festered on Jim's foot for weeks after he punctured it on a nail.

**#13 Disheveled (p. 25 -- *A Raisin in the Sun*)**

- a) Untidy; messy (usually about a person's hair, clothing, or appearance)
- b) Adjective
- c) Cynthia looked completely disheveled as she arrived home from a very long day at work.

**#14 Indifferent (p. 26 and 27 -- *ARITS*)**

- a) Having no particular interest or sympathy; unconcerned
- b) Adjective
- c) I watched the football game so I could be with my friends; I was indifferent about who would win the game.

**#15 Assimilation (p. 63...sort of)**

- a) The process of absorbing one cultural group with another
- b) Noun
- c) Beneatha rejects the notion that she has taken part in assimilation simply because she does not keep her natural hair style.

**#16 Insincere (p. 100 -- at the bottom)**

- a) not expressing true feelings
- b) Adjective
- c) Rob's apology was insincere -- he only said he was sorry because his mom forced him to do so.

**#17 Strident (p. 110 -- *ARITS*)**

- a) loud and harsh; hard on the ears
- b) adjective
- c) The presenter was losing patience with his rude audience members, and his voice became increasingly strident when speaking to them.

**#18 Exuberant (p. 110 -- *ARITS*)**

- a) filled with energy and excitement
- b) adjective
- c) My brother and I were exuberant about the new season of our favorite show, *Seinfeld*.

### **#19 Integrity**

- a. the quality of being honest and of strong moral character
- b. noun
- c. Most of the presidential candidates have little integrity, it seems.

### **#20 Humility**

- a. The act of being humble; having a low view of one's importance; modesty
- b. noun
- c. Kevin Durant is loved by many because of his humility; he never brags about his success.

### **#21 Right** (not from a text)

- a) a freedom that cannot be denied to any person
- b) noun
- c) "I have a right to explain my side of the story if I want to!" the man explained to his lawyer.

### **#22 Prejudice** (not from a text)

- a) an unjustifiable opinion about a group, a race, or an individual for their supposed characteristics
- b) noun
- c) The taxi driver was accused of prejudice when he ignored a Latino hailing a cab and picked up the white person standing right next to him instead.

### **#23 Eccentric (p. 10 -- TKAM)**

- a. unusual; peculiar; unconventional
- b. adjective
- c. My neighbor is a bit eccentric; he owns twelve cats, only wears mismatched shoes, and talks with a British accent when he grew up in Missouri.

### **#24 Malevolent (p. 10 -- TKAM)**

- a. having or showing a wish to do evil to others
- b. adjective
- c. Professor Snape looked at Harry with a malevolent glare when Harry defeated Malfoy once again.

**#25 Assuage (p. 3 -- TKAM)**

- a) to put an end to whatever bothered/worried you
- b) verb
- c) I assuaged my thirst when I bought myself a Gatorade.

**#26 Fruitless (p. 43 -- TKAM)**

- a) not achieving the desired results; useless
- b) adjective
- c) Despite having friends in the movie business, John's pursuit of acting was ultimately fruitless.

**#27 Ascertain (p. 81 -- TKAM)**

- a) to find (something) out for sure; to make certain of
- b) verb
- c) The police chief ascertained the cause of the crime by studying all of the footage from the security tapes.

**#28 Cordial (p. 97 -- TKAM)**

- a) warm and friendly
- b) adjective
- c) My brother and I used to fight all of the time, but our relationship has become more cordial as we have gotten older.

**#29 Subdue (p. 112 -- TKAM)**

- a) to bring under control (a person or feeling)
- b) verb
- c) The speaker attempted to subdue the loud and disorderly crowd.

**#30 Disorderly (p. 113 -- TKAM)**

- a) breaking down peaceful and law-abiding behavior; rowdy or unruly
- b) adjective
- c) The speaker attempted to subdue the loud and disorderly crowd.

**#31 Innate (p. 160 -- TKAM)**

- a) existing within a person since birth; natural
- b) adjective
- c) My innate curiosity led me to ask all kinds of questions about the new information I was learning.

**#32 Melancholy (p. 161 -- TKAM)**

- a) feeling or showing sadness; very unhappy
- b) adjective
- c) After enduring various difficult moments in his life, Kanye West released a melancholy album, "808s and Heartbreak."

**#33 Formidable (p. 213 -- TKAM)**

- a. inspiring fear or respect because of being strong, powerful, or talented at something
- b. adjective
- c. Muhammad Ali is considered one of the all-time greatest boxers because he defeated many formidable opponents.

**#34 Elucidate (p. 213 -- TKAM)**

- a. to make something clear; explain
- b. verb
- c. Mr. Freeman elucidated the new concept when he saw the confusion on his students' faces.

**#35 Testimony (p. 232 -- TKAM)**

- a) a formal written or spoken statement, especially one given in a court of law
- b) noun
- c) The witness gave her testimony, and the events she described convinced the jury she was not guilty.

**#36 Haughty (p. 233 -- TKAM)**

- a) thinking oneself is superior or dominant over others
- b) adjective
- c) The bully walked around with a haughty attitude and talked down to everyone in the school.

**#37 Tedious (p. 248)**

- a) Too long, boring, or slow; dull
- b) Adjective
- c) The professor knew he had to remake his lessons because his students complained of them being tedious.

**#38 Idle (p. 274)**

- a) inactive or not in use; doing nothing
- b) adjective
- c) After my car engine broke down, it sat idle on the highway until it was towed away.

**#39 Acquit (p. 277)**

- a) To free someone accused of a crime by ruling him “not guilty” in court
- b) Verb
- c) The jury made the easy decision to acquit her because there was no evidence suggesting she committed the crime

**#40 Wholeheartedly (p. 313)**

- a) With full, energetic, and/or enthusiastic sincerity or support
- b) Adverb
- c) My friends thought it was unwise to argue with the teacher about it, and I wholeheartedly agreed.

**#41 Recitation**

- a) the action of repeating something aloud from memory
- b) noun
- c) The student’s recitation of the Declaration of Independence was flawless -- she did not miss a single word.

**# 42 Assiduous (not in a text)**

- a) showing great care and effort
- b) adjective
- c) The student’s assiduous approach to his recitation assignment helped him earn a strong grade.

**#43 Credence (p. 9 -- *True Grit*)**

- a) The belief that something is true
- b) Noun
- c) Americans have little credence that the current election cycle is going to be any less messy in the months to come.

**#44 Industrious (p. 11 -- *TG*)**

- a) Diligent and hardworking
- b) Adjective

- c) My grandpa was an industrious, assiduous worker at the metal factory for 30 years.

**#45 Impudent (p. 36)**

- a) Not showing proper respect to another person
- b) Adjective
- c) Brian was being impudent with his mom, and he was grounded for three weeks because of it.

**#46 Commence (p. 42)**

- a) To begin; to start
- b) verb
- c) The soccer players commenced the practice as soon as the team captains arrived.

**#47 Tentative (p. 88)**

- a) Not certain or finalized
- b) Adjective
- c) The tentative date of our meeting is May 22nd, but we need the manager to confirm that it works for him.

**#48 Oblige (p. 106)**

- a) To require someone to do something because of a law, a rule, or because it is necessary.
- b) Verb
- c) The film's director was obliged to thank the studio for giving him the money to make his award-winning film.

**#49 Sociable (p. 134)**

- a) Friendly; interested in and willing to talk with others
- b) Adjective
- c) I have always been very sociable -- I get that quality from my mom, who loves meeting new people.

**#50 Indicate (p. 152)**

- a) To point out or show
- b) Verb
- c) The tracks in mud indicate that a tall person walked by here not too long ago.